

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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February 25, 2003

**FROM:** JAMES A. FELTEN, Public Health Programs Administrator  
Department of Public Health

**SUBJECT: GRANT AWARD FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
SERVICES FOR CONTINUATION OF TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION AND  
CONTROL**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Ratify the action of the former Department of Public Health Chief of Administrative Services in submitting an application for grant award to the California Department of Health Services Tuberculosis Control Branch (CDHS-TB).
2. Accept grant award from CDHS-TB in the amount of \$364,282 for tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control activities in FY 2002-2003.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Reported cases of TB in San Bernardino County increased from a low of 59 cases in 1985 to a high of 151 cases in 1993. Since 1993, reported cases of TB have begun to decline with 83 cases reported in 2001. The increase and subsequent decline of TB cases in San Bernardino County is similar to changes in TB cases both in California and the United States.

The state and federal governments provide funding assistance through the California Department of Health Services (CDHS) to local health jurisdictions to support activities intended to control the incidence of TB. In June 2002, an application for Local Assistance Subvention for FY 2002-03 was due to CDHS. This Subvention funding is a continuing funding source and is used for TB prevention and control activities in San Bernardino County. At the time of application submission, the Public Health Department's former Chief of Administrative Services signed the application without seeking Board approval as required by established policy.

In August 2002, a letter of award was sent to the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health for signature, but the item was not brought to the Board for acceptance of the grant award. In January 2003, the CDHS-TB Control Branch notified the local program that the Acceptance of Award letter had not been received. The Department is now requesting that the Board of Supervisors ratify the action of the Department's former Chief of Administrative Services in submitting the application and accept the grant award from CDHS. The CDHS-TB Branch awarded the Department of Public Health a base award of \$364,282 for FY 2002-2003. The "Project Terms and Conditions" and "Standards and Procedures Manual" were included with the CDHS-TB request for application package and constitute the terms and conditions of the agreement.

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The CDHS-TB has adopted three priorities that were established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the control and prevention of TB as follows:

- Identifying, treating and ensuring completion of appropriate therapy for persons with active TB;
- Identifying, screening and treating persons who have been in contact with active TB patients; and
- Screening high-risk populations to detect persons with latent TB infections (LTBI) to prevent the infection from progressing to TB disease.

The base award supports these subvention activities throughout the County with case management, case investigation, contact investigations, and provision of medical services for persons diagnosed with active TB disease or LTBI. This is an ongoing program for which services have continued to be provided and expenses incurred. Should the Board choose not to accept the grant, the Department would have no means of being reimbursed for approximately \$187,672 in expenses incurred to date.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Scott Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on February 13, 2003. This item has also been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Beatriz Valdez, Administrative Analyst) on February 13, 2003.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** Approval of this grant award requires no County local cost. Expenditures are fully reimbursed by the State Department of Health Services. Revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$364,282 are included in the Department's FY 2002-2003 budget.

**COST REDUCTION REVIEW:** The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and concurs with the Department's proposal and recommends action based on funding being fully reimbursed by the State. Staffing has been sustained through annual funding provided for this program since 1997; at present there are no indications that funding is at risk in FY 2003-2004.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S):** All

**PRESENTER:** James A. Felten, Public Health Programs Administrator (909) 387-9146